

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10 SCI-06

OMB-01 AID-20 IGA-02 SS-20 PA-04 PRS-01 DRC-01 /138 W

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P R 181654Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8905

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

DEA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 5404

NOFORN

DEPT PASS AID/W

BUENOS AIRES FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, EC

SUBJECT: MONTHLY NARCOTICS REPORT: ECUADOR, SEPTEMBER 1973

1. GENERAL

A. NATIONAL CIVIL POLICE

1) ONE OF THE MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL NARCOTICS UNIT WITH AT LEAST 42 MEN ASSIGNED. AFTER EIGHT MONTHS THIS UNIT HAS BEEN CREATED AT THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE GENERAL LEVEL. THIS UNIT, THE NARCOTICS AND INTERPOL SERVICE, IS THE HIGHEST ORGANIZATIONALLY POSSIBLE IN THE NCP, SUBORDINATE ONLY TO THE COMMANDER GENERAL AND HEADED BY A POLICE COLONEL, PREFECTO-JEFE TARQUINO NUNES. AT THE MOMENT HE HAS 47 MEN ASSIGNED TO THIS SERVICE. HOWEVER, HE HAS REQUESTED ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT (NOT AUTHORIZED IN CEILING) AND

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152 MEN, INCLUDING 28 OFFICERS, FOR GOE BUDGET YEAR (SAME

AS CALENDAR YEAR) 1974.

2) THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE TRANSFERRED TO THE POLICE 75 PERCENT (\$1,125,000) OF THE CASH CONTRIBUTION REQUIRED UNDER THE PROJECT AGREEMENT. THE REMAINDER HAS BEEN PROMISED FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1974.

B. CUSTOMS PROJECT AGREEMENT

1) THE ADVISOR FOR THE CUSTOMS PROJECT ARRIVED IN SEPTEMBER. HE IS PRESENTLY GETTING ORIENTED AND HAS TAKEN THE INITIAL STEPS TO GET THE PROJECT STARTED.

C. U.S. ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CHANGE OVER THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD. THE NATIONAL POLICE NARCOTICS UNIT IS COOPERATING ON A MUTUAL INVESTIGATION INVOLVING SEVERAL MAJOR TRAFFICKERS IN GUAYAQUIL, WHEREAS U.S. AGENTS ARE TALKING TO A CO-DEFENDANT WHO MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR TESTIMONY IN THE U.S. THE COURT HAS BEEN FURNISHED COPIES OF U.S. CRIMINAL CASE REPORTS THAT THEY ARE PUTTING TO GOOD USE. THE DEA SAIC WAS ABSENT ON TDY IN BUENOS AIRES FOR HALF OF THE REPORTING PERIOD, AND THE GUAYAQUIL DEA OFFICE IS NOT YET STAFFED.

D. ARRESTS AND SEIZURES IN ECUADOR

AS A RESULT OF 37 POLICE INVESTIGATIONS 60 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED: 9 TRAFFICKING; 11 POSSESSIO AND 40 USING. SIXTY GRAMS OF PURE COCAINE AND 152 GRAMS OF MARIJUANA WERE SEIZED. NOTE: BECAUSE OF CHANCE OF COMMAND IN NARCOTICS SERVICE, IT IS SUSPECTED THESE STATISTICS, FURNISHED BY THE POLICE, ARE NOT COMPLETE. CORRECTIONS WILL BE MADE, IF NECESSARY, IN THE OCTOBER REPORT.

2. OVERALL PROGRESS

PROGRESS ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT BEHIND THE WORK PLAN CONTINUES TO BE MADE. THE NARCOTICS SERVICE HAS BEEN FORMED AND STAFFED. ARRESTS AND SEIZURES BY THE END OF AUGUST HAVE SURPASSED 1972 SEIZURES AND ARRESTS IN ALMOST EVERY CATEGORY. TME POLICE HAVE MADE USE OF TWO SURPLUS VEHICLES GRANTED BY USAID AND ONE OR MORE VEHICLES THEY OBTAINED AS A RESULT OF SEIZURES BUT ARE STILL GREATLY HAMPERED BY LACK OF TRANSPORTATION.

3. MAJOR PROBLEMS AND TRENDS

THE GOE HAS NOT YET PROVIDED 6 VEHICLES REQUIRED BY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PROAG. SOME ADDITIONAL VEHICLES HAVE BEEN ORDERED BY THE GOE FROM TRAFFIC FUNDS. THE COMMANDER GENERAL HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE 6 VEHICLES TO THE NARCOTICS SERVICE AS SOON AS THESE VEHICLES ARRIVE. THE VEHICLES ORDERED BY USG HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED ALTHOUGH SHIPPING DOCUMENTS WERE RECEIVED INDICATING THE FIRST 7 HAVE BEEN SHIPPED.

BECAUSE OF THE DELAY IN ASSIGNMENT OF A CUSTOMS ADVISOR AND DETERMINATION OF TYPE OF PATROL BOATS FOR CUSTOMS,

NO COMMODITIES HAVE BEEN ORDERED AND NO ONE HAS BEEN WORKING WITH CUSOMTS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT. ON THE U.S. SIDE, MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS HAVE BEEN SLOW DELIVERY OF COMMODITIES AND DELAY IN ARRIVAL OF PROJECT PERSONNEL AND ABSENCE OF DEA AGENTS. WE EXPECT THAT THESE TWO PROBLEMS ARE NOW ALMOST OVER-COME. TRENDS IN DOMESTIC NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT BY ECUADOREAN AU-

THORITIES HAVE BEEN DECIDEDLY ENCOURAGING OVER THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF CY72, WHEN COMPARED TO PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE. HOWEVER, EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AGAINST MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKERS HAVE NOT YET SHOWN AN EQUIVALENT INCREASE.
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